

**AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY
WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

George Pettigrew
Jennifer Lyke
Patrick Young

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (04/22 - 26/2013)

EXXON PIPELINE RELEASE. AR (Pettigrew/Young)

Continued to provide technical support to ADH, EPA OSC's and ATSDR as they address clean up levels associated with crude pipeline burst in the residential community of Mayflower, Arkansas. Arkansas Department of Health requested support from the ATSDR ACE Team. Arkansas Department of Health management is in the process of conducting a health survey for the community and may request the support of the ATSDR to provide support.

Participated in ADH/ATSDR Coop. Agreement Program conference call with CDC NCEH CASPER team and ATSDR ACE team to discuss the possibility of a public health study in the Mayflower, AR community related to the Exxon Pipeline oil spill incident.

MIDLOTHIAN, TX (Lyke)

Spoke with ATSDR petitioner regarding observations from last week's end-user focus group. (The purpose of the end-user survey is to gain information to improve the ATSDR PHA and PHC process.) Shared observations with ATSDR-HQ.

DELFASCO, TX (Lyke)

Participated in conference call with EPA-6, TDSHS, TCEQ and the city of Grand Prairie to learn more about EPA-6 plans to install vapor mitigation systems. (Lyke).

RSR/WEST DALLAS, TX (Pettigrew)

The roundtable discussion on lead contamination in the area of West Dallas, TX that Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson had planned has been post-pone because of scheduling difficulties. ATSDR RO6 was to serve as a panelist to discuss what can be done for the citizens of the area that are still suffering the consequences of lead in the soil from the RSR lead smelter that closed in 1984. They are expressing concerns about their health and children's health and many have high levels of lead according to the standards of the CDC. The TXDSHS has been requested by the Congresswoman's office to prepared information on present blood lead levels in children in West Dallas, other areas in Dallas and in Frisco (a more affluent suburb of Dallas).

EVR-WOOD TREATING/ EVANGELINE REFINING COMPANY, LA (Pettigrew)

LaOPH has released the PHA – Initial Release document for the site. This is an evaluation of environmental data collected during the 2011 Site Reassessment of the Superfund Site. This review determines whether media from the site contains concentrations of contaminants that could pose harm to public health and recommends any actions needed to mitigate exposures and protect health.

MOSSVILLE, LA (Pettigrew)

Reviewed the “Action Plan and Timeline of Activities for the Mossville Community” prepared by EPA. Participated in separate pre-briefing meetings with the SF Div Dir and the DRA and covered health related activities provided by ATSDR. Participated in the RA briefing for proposed trip to the area in May.

WEST FERTILIZER, INC., TX (Young/Lyke)

ATSDR Region 6 was requested by EPA to provide toxic report on ammonium nitrate. ATSDR R6 contacted Scott Wright and provided the response to EPA and the North Texas Poison Center. ATSDR was contacted by ACMT concerning advice on decon. ATSDR provided copies of the ATSDR Medical Management Guidelines for Ammonia. Poison Control Center requested any additional information on chemicals that may have been stored in the warehouse. EPA provided confirmation. EPA is requesting on-going support to review air data collected from the field.

ATSDR contacted Lori Lafone with FEMA Region 6 to inquire on the ability of FEMA to provide a person that could facilitate a table top for the medical community at the request of ACMT. Dr. Paul Wax with ACMT would like to host a table top with the medical community that responded to the fertilizer explosion in West, Texas.

RO6 -PCC Pesticide Pilot Project Capturing EPA Registration Codes – Young –

Identified Department of Ag representatives at the request of PCC. Provided contact information to AAPCC for follow-up.

TECHNICAL ASSIST (Young)

Provided direction to EPA concerning a transfer center located in Houston, TX. The City run transfer center was a few years old and appears to be mismanaged. Facility produced rodents and filth flies in mass quantities impacting the abutting communities. Citizen was not having any luck with local officials addressing the vectors. Recommended to EPA that they contact the City or County Sanitarian to provide corrective action. Situation may go unaddressed if the Sanitarians work for the City who manages the transfer center.

BLACKWELL ZINC, AR (Young)

ATSDR Atlanta notified ODEQ on the status of the ATSDR Health Assessment. ATSDR reported the lead health assessor broke her wrist and had difficulties completing the report.

MISCELLANEOUS

Participated in ATSDR TPT conference call with TDSHS to discuss site specific and programmatic issues. (Pettigrew/Lyke)

As requested provided available references related to Uranium exposure for employees and public to EPA, Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division. (Pettigrew)

Discussed with the North Texas Poison Center Network plans to monitor for West Nile cases called into the Poison Centers. Mentioned using a SITREP to document cases similar to 2012. (Young)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX (Lyke)

ATSDR RO6 staff will assist TDSHS conduct outreach activity in the Dona Park neighborhood of Corpus Christi. This will include handing out copies of the past TDSHS health consultation and a newly developed fact sheet, leaving information on doors and/or answering questions raised on findings.

BLACKWELL ZINC, OK (Young/Pettigrew)

Continue working with the ATSDR team, EPA and the ODEQ to finalize a draft of the PHA.

MIDLOTHIAN, TX (Lyke)

Lead ATSDR team call to discuss ongoing site activities.

TRIBAL ACTIVITY (Young)

ATSDR R6 was invited to attend the 6th Annual ITEM-C Tribal emergency management conference the week of June 3rd. ITEM-C is also looking for presenters. Forwarded request to EPA, FEMA and the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Affairs Coordinator, Annabelle Allison.

HHS Regions 7 and Regions 6 are combining the annual meeting with the Tribal Leaders. This year's meeting will be in Tulsa, OK in the spring.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (Young)

ATSDR will present at the AAPCC Symposium on the Use of Poison Centers by Federal Health and Environmental Emergency Response Agencies; The development of a Regional Response ALL HAZARDS Team Activation Guidance in Region 6. Lectures by ATSDR RO6 staff: Regional Response Team Background & Activation Guidance and Panel Discussion.

Region 6 RRT meeting, May 29 and 30, Addison, TX.

MISCELLANEOUS

Participate in monthly conference call with ATSDR-HQ and ArDOH to discuss ongoing cooperative agreement activities. (Lyke)

TRAVEL/LEAVE PLANS FOR NEXT WEEK (04/29 – 05/03/2013)

Annual/Sick Leave.....05/03/2013.....Pettigrew

ASSISTANCE FROM ATSDR IS REQUIRED WHEN STAFF IS AWAY FROM THE OFFICE, THE ATSDR EMERGENCY OFFICE IN ATLANTA MAY BE CONTACTED AT 404-498-0120 (CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES). FOR OIL SPILLS OR NATURAL DISASTERS THE CDC EMERGENCY STAFF CAN BE REACHED AT 770-488-7100. TECHNICAL SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FROM THESE OFFICE 24 HOURS/DAY, 365 DAYS/YEAR.